

*The Comickall Historie of*

And it is meet I presently set forth.

*Duke.* I am sorry that your leisure serves you not.

*Antonio,* gratifie this Gentleman;

For in my mind you are much bound to him.

*Exit Duke and his traine.*

*Bass.* Most worthy Gentleman, I and my friend  
Have by your wisdom been this day acquitted

Of grievous penalties, in lieu whereof,  
Three thousand Ducats due unto the Jew,  
We freely cope your courteous paines withall.

*Ant.* And stand indebted over and above  
In love and service to you ever more.

*Por.* He is well paid that is well satisfied;  
And I delivering you, am satisfied,  
And therein do account my selfe well paid;  
My minde was never yet more mercenary:  
I pray you know me when we meet againe,  
I wish you well, and so I take my leave.

*Bass.* Deere sir, of force I must attempt you further,  
Take some remembrance of us as a tribute,  
Not as fee: grant me two things: I pray you,  
Not to deny me, and to pardon me.

*Por.* You presse me farre, and therefore I will yeeld;  
Give me your Gloves, Ile wear them for your sake,  
And for your love Ile take this Ring from you.  
Do not draw back your hand, Ile take no more,  
And you in love shall not deny me this.

*Bass.* This Ring good sir, alas it is a trifle,  
I will not shame my selfe to give you this.

*Por.* I will have nothing else but onely this,  
And now me thinkes I have a mind to it.

*Bass.* There's more depends on this then on the value;  
The dearest Ring in Venice will I give you,  
And find it out by proclamation,  
Onely for this I pray you pardon me.

*Por.* I see sir you are liberall in offers,  
You taught me first to beg, and now me thinkes  
You teach me how a begger should be answered.

*Bass.* Good

*the Merchant of Venice.*

*Bass.* Good sir, this Ring was given me by my wife,

And when she put it on, she made me vow,

That I should neither sell, nor give, nor loose it.

*Por.* That excuse serves many men to save their gifts,  
And if your wife be not a mad woman,

And know how well I have deserv'd this Ring,

She would not hold out enemy for ever,

For giving it to me: well, peace be with you. *Exeunt.*

*Ant.* My L. Bassanio, let him have the Ring,

Let his deservings and my love withall

Be valued 'gainst your wives commandement.

*Bass.* Go Gratiano, runne and over-take him,

Give him the Ring, and bring him if thou canst

Unto Antonio's house, away, make hast. *Exit Gratiano.*

Come, you and I will thither presently,

And in the morning early will we both

Flie toward Belmont, come Antonio. *Exeunt.*

*Enter Nerissa.*

*Por.* Enquire the Jewes house out, give him this deed,

And let him signe it, wee'l away to night,

And be a day before our husbands home:

This deed will be well welcome to Lorenzo.

*Enter Gratiano.*

*Grat.* Faire sir, you are well ore-tane:

My Lord Bassanio upon more advice,

Hath sent you here this Ring, and doth intreat

Your company at dinner.

*Por.* That cannot be;

His Ring I do accept most thankfully,

And so I pray you tell him: furthermore,

I pray you shew my youth old Shylocks house.

*Grat.* That will I do.

*Ner.* Sir, I would speak with you:

Ile see if I can get my husbands Ring,

Which I did make him sweare to keep for ever.

*Por.* Thou